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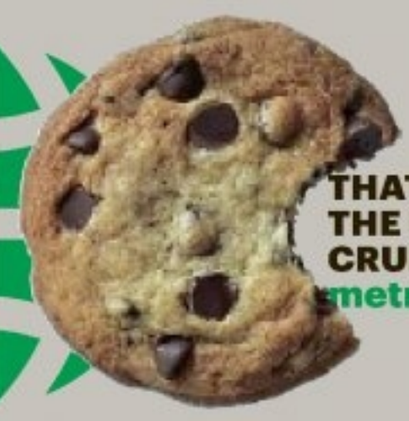

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Morgane Oger, BC NDP candidate for Vancouver-False Creek, in Yaletown on Thursday.
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

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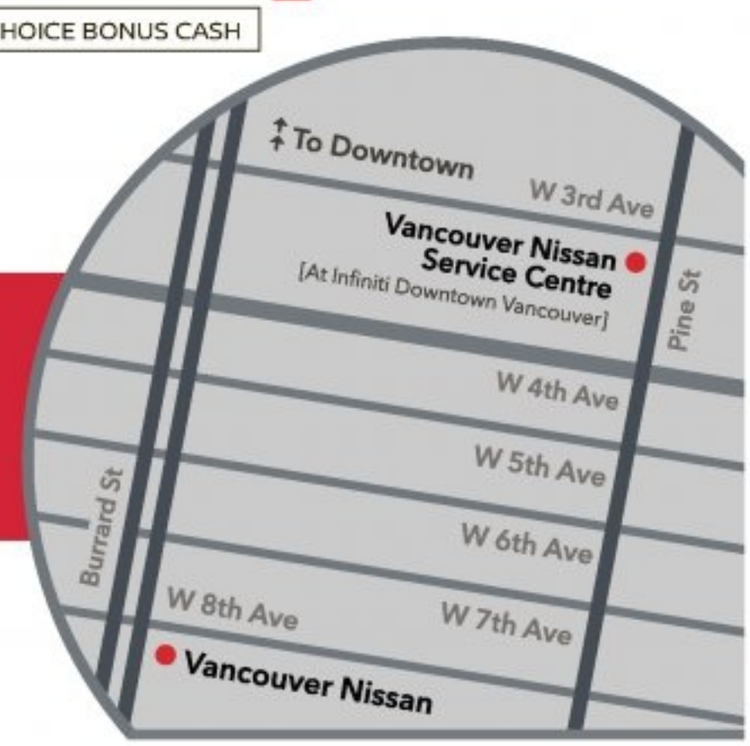

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metro NEWS
Your essential daily news

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New episode April 28 featuring Ginny Movat and Sarah Hagi

Ban a death sentence: Aquarium

ANIMAL WELFARE

Head vet fears he would have to euthanize injured whales

Wanyee Li
Metro | Vancouver

The Vancouver Aquarium says the park board would be giving orphaned and injured whales a death sentence if it goes through with a proposed bylaw to ban cetaceans in captivity.

But the park board says euthanizing whales was not their intention when it decided to ban cetaceans and that the aquarium should look at other options.

The board unanimously agreed in a March 9 vote to ban captive cetaceans in the aquarium. Staff are due to come back with a proposed bylaw, which could range from an immediate ban to a grandfathered ban, in May.

The aquarium is home to three cetaceans: Chester, a false killer whale; Daisy, a harbour porpoise; and Helen the white-sided dolphin. The last two remaining belugas at the aquarium died in November.

But the ban means officials will have to make tough decisions when they find an injured whale on the beach, says Vancouver Aquarium's head veterinarian, Martin Haulena.

"When that animal strands and you don't have a future home for that animal, or at least a temporary home, then your options are limited," he said.

"Euthanasia is one of them."

The other is to let the animal die a natural but painful and stressful death, he said.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans is responsible for judging whether injured animals are releasable back into the wild.

Haulena hopes park board commissioners can put themselves in his shoes when they vote on the ban on May 15.

"It's not going to be park board guys that go and euthanize these animals," he said.

"It's going to be someone like me, probably me, and I don't want to do that. Especially when I know there are other options for those animals."

But Vancouver Park Board chair Michael Wiebe says commissioners are taking into consideration what will happen to the marine mammal rescue centre after the bylaw is implemented.

"We are being compassionate in our bylaw," he said.

There must be other viable options because the aquarium itself was going to phase out belugas in 2029, he pointed out.

The park board is simply pushing that timeline forward, he said.

"What we did is we made the decision that would advance what the Vancouver aquarium thought should happen, 12 years earlier."

Wiebe also highlighted the research Vancouver Aquarium has been able to conduct on orcas without bringing them into captivity. The non-profit, which once upon a time was home to two orcas, committed to no longer bringing them into the aquarium in 1996.

But Haulena says not all research can be done in the wild. Some topics, like metabolism or how loud is too loud for a whale to echolocate, can only be investigated in a controlled environment like an aquarium, he said.

The aquarium does a mixture of both.

"You can't answer everything in here; you can't answer everything out there," said Haulena.

Trainers work with Chester, a false killer whale, and Helen, a white-sided dolphin at the Vancouver Aquarium on Thursday.
JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

> **We are being compassionate in our bylaw.**
> Michael Wiebe

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Rooms 'just disgusting'

HOUSING

City tries to clean up SROs, residents see little change

Jen St. Denis
Metro | Vancouver

Jack Gates has lived at the Regent for three years and says nothing has improved. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

"$700 — for a place that's just nasty."

Richard Griffin is recounting the conditions he found his 21-year-old granddaughter and her boyfriend living in when he visited her at the Regent Hotel in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Griffin lives in Surrey and has had his own struggles with drug addiction and homelessness in the past. But he says he was shocked by what he saw inside what the city has rated one of Vancouver's two worst single room occupancy (SRO) hotels.

"There's no sink, no stove, the bathroom's just disgusting. There's (drug) rigs on the floor, there's water."

Earlier this week, Regent resident Jack Gates strapped his mouse-infested mattress on top of an activist's car and drove it to city hall to protest the conditions.

The problems aren't anything new. The Regent and Balmoral, both owned by the infamous Sahota family, have been a headache to the city for years.

Gates has lived at the Regent for three years. In that time nothing has improved, he says, while some things — notably the communal toilets — have gotten worse.

"They have somebody who's doing plumbing who's not a plumber, who tears the toilets out of the bathrooms, tries to fix them, doesn't do it right," Gates said.

Metro visited the building on Thursday. Some of the hallway walls appeared to have been freshly painted, but there were overflowing garbage bins in the hallway, a broken toilet that had flooded the floor and rooms with doors that didn't lock.

Gates was having his room treated for cockroaches — but not for mice.

Following a 2016 tent city protest at 58 West Hastings St., the city struck an SRO task force in October and has made changes that have yielded real progress on the issue, said Kaye Krishna, manager of building, development and licensing for the city.

For a time the city was coordinating weekly or bi-weekly building inspections with police and fire.

Building inspectors now visit the buildings every week and have persuaded the Sahotas to hire professional contractors to do repairs, something that was not happening before. Krishna acknowledges it's been a challenge to keep the contractors at work in the buildings because they don't always feel safe.

The Sahotas are also in talks with a non-profit to manage the building, Krishna said.

That would make a big difference because right now many of the private SROs are housing tenants with serious mental-health and addictions problems, with no social supports in place.

As for why the city has gone for the carrot approach rather than the stick, Krishna said it's more effective than repeatedly taking the Sahotas to court for failing to pay fines or not doing ordered work.

"We're trying to push them more to actively doing the work in the building instead of spending the money and time in court," she said, adding the city will go to court again if the Sahotas don't comply with ongoing orders.

The city would also like tougher enforcement powers, such as shorter deadlines to get work done than the current 60-day period. But that's a change that would have to come from the provincial government.

Krishna insists the new approach is making a difference, and has pushed the Sahotas to invest "a lot of money" in the buildings.

But that's not how Gates sees it.

"I've seen the city inspectors here, but I have not seen anything change," he said.

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Top donors gave $56M, got $15B

POLITICS

Premier denies pork barreling accusations in new e-book

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

An e-book published this week by a British Columbia watchdog has identified a group of top industry donors who gave $56 million to the provincial Liberals over 12 years — and raked in at least $15 billion of taxpayers' money.

The 197-page book, May I Take Your Order, Please?, digs into public data behind B.C.'s lax rules on gifts to politicians and parties — allowing unlimited donations even from outside Canada.

The book examines what author Dermod Travis, executive director of Integrity B.C., has labelled the "$100,000 Club," a group of 177 donors from the real estate, forestry, oil and gas and construction sectors.

According to Travis, few British Columbians have connected the dots between donations and what he argued donors get in return, such as government contracts, board appointments and tax breaks.

"Pork barreling is in essence what the government can do for donors to its political party," he told Metro. "A whole bunch of industries gave exceptional donations to the B.C. Liberals and got exceptional returns.

"It's become very clear — when you start looking at all the sweetheart deals, the tally of supplier payments and infrastructure projects — that this is beyond coincidence; this is pork barreling. It's the government taking care of its friends."

Premier Christy Clark tours FibreCo in North Vancouver on Thursday. According to Elections B.C., the company and its directors have donated nearly $50,000 to the B.C. Liberals since 2005. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

> **This is beyond coincidence.**
> Dermod Travis

The watchdog group describes itself as "a non-partisan non-profit organization dedicated to help restore a bond built on trust and confidence between citizens and their elected officials."

At a campaign stop Tuesday, Premier Christy Clark called Travis' allegations "not accurate," telling reporters that the NDP has made similar claims.

"I don't think that they have an interest in speaking the truth about it," Clark said. "It isn't true."

The B.C. Liberals have drawn attention to more than $650,000 the NDP got from the United Steelworkers last year.

Groups like Integrity B.C. and Democracy Watch — which has called the province's political financing rules outdated and a "system of legalized bribery" — want the province to ban union and corporate donations outright, but Clark said her party's donations were different from the NDP's.

"It is not the same," Clark told reporters. "Everybody takes donations, but the thing is, does the donation change your decision?"

Travis said there's one big difference: The B.C. Liberals, in power for 16 years, are the only ones actually able to do anything about the issue.

"The only person left in denial in all B.C.," Travis quipped, "would seem to be the premier."

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Morgan Oger, BC NDP candidate for Vancouver-False Creek, in Yaletown on Thursday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO

Transphobic fliers decried by parties

POLITICS

'Hateful' pamphlets targeted NDP candidate Oger

David P. Ball
Metro | Vancouver

Both the B.C. Liberals and the Greens are speaking out against hate speech targeting one of their political rivals: Vancouver New Democrat candidate Morgane Orger.

On Thursday morning, the Greens issued a statement condemning anti-transgender pamphlets handed out in Vancouver-False Creek riding as "hateful."

Meanwhile, Oger's B.C. Liberal rival, former Vancouver mayor Sam Sullivan, called the fliers "horrible."

"I expected to catch hateful attention," Oger told Metro. "But I did not expect such incredible hateful harshness.

"It did make me catch my breath — it really did sting."

The fliers — titled "Transgenderism vs Truth in Vancouver-False Creek" — were distributed in Oger's riding and reviewed by Metro.

"The thing that particularly hit me was that it puts into question whether or not I am authentic," said Oger, hoping to become the first transgender MLA in B.C. "That's what hurt."

Sam Sullivan, the incumbent who is Oger's B.C. Liberal rival in Vancouver-False Creek, said such hate speech has no place in British Columbia.

"It's horrible," he told Metro. "I feel really upset that she has to endure this — I hope that she is not dissuaded by any of it.

"She is a very important voice in this campaign. Morgane is taking her duties as a citizen so seriously; she's adding her voice to the public discourse and we're better off for it."

> **This is why we don't listen to extremists, but only reasonable people.**
> Morgan Oger

Meanwhile, the Green Party of B.C.'s candidate for Coquitlam-Maillardville, Nicola Spurling, said the attack targeting Oger is a reminder of the hate that many transgender people face.

"This highlights exactly why it's dangerous to be outed as a transgender person," she told Metro, "because you face all this discrimination.

"When you talk about suicide rates of trans people, those are caused by discrimination."

Spurling, who is an LGBTQ advocate and a Vancouver Pride Society board member, never intended to come out publicly as transgender — until she was "outed" during the election campaign during a television segment on transgender candidates with several parties.

She said it was the result of a miscommunication between the B.C. Greens and Global News after she declined an interview for the segment.

"I figured that would come out at some point during the campaign," she said, "but the way it came out was not appropriate. Outing a trans person is something dangerous to do."

Now, Spurling wants to get back to focusing on her door-knocking campaign and talking about issues like affordable housing and transportation, she said.

Oger said she's heartened by the words of support after the flier incident, but said "it takes more than words to be progressive."

She cited the B.C. government's slowness to include transgender rights explicitly in its human rights laws, until passing an NDP-sponsored bill last July — legislation she'd helped craft years before.

"I'm sure the B.C. Liberals mean well," Oger argued. "But the Christy Clark government's actions over the last 16 years speak for themselves.

"I've experienced many people saying kind things while doing nothing to stop oppression or discrimination."

Oger also criticized the Liberals for allowing a dissident member, Chilliwack-Hope riding's Laurie Throness, to make "transphobic" remarks opposing his own party's support for the reforms, citing religious beliefs there are just two genders fixed at birth. Throness also quoted the Bible — which was also the justifications listed on this week's flier against Oger.

VANCOUVERING

with icons by **Danielle Vallée** from the noun project

New photogs captured by old techniques

VANCOUVER TRENDING

Tintype yields haunting but unpredictable results

Amy Logan
For Metro | Vancouver

Light and shadow fall across a silvery, Ansel Adams-like landscape; a young, moustachioed man stares into the camera with disarming candour, evoking Civil War era portraits of soldiers.

Printed on metal plates, the photos look hundreds of years old, but were taken only recently. From workshops and Meetup groups, to a mobile studio, a traditional photographic technique is inspiring modern Vancouver practitioners.

Tintype photography is a wet-plate photography process; chemicals are applied to a thin sheet of metal, and the image is developed right then and there. The process itself, along with its haunting but unpredictable results, appeals to a new generation of photographers turning to old school practices to reveal something new.

Widely used during 1860s and 1870s, tintype photos were originally made in photographic studios, but later the process became more mobile as tintype studios were set up at fairs and on sidewalks.

Long a city of photographic experimentation, Vancouver is home to a growing number of tintype aficionados. A local Meetup group dedicated to YVR wet plate collodion and large format photography, offers demonstrations and workshops.

Phillip Chin, a Canadian photographer specializing in portraiture, has turned to tintype photography for his latest show at the Shadbolt Centre as part of the Capture Photography Festival, which runs till May 9. Robert Kenney is another local photographer who uses tintype photography to create fine art pieces. And various tintype workshops have been held throughout the city.

Tintype portraits by Ian Azariah. CONTRIBUTED

Professional photographer Ian Azariah has perhaps the most fascinating tintype practice, a mobile studio called Tin Type Trike, mounted on a trike which he pedals around the city.

After learning the tintype process, Azariah said he "quickly became tired of working close to my darkroom and began working on a solution. After some research, I found no one had really done a modern, mobile darkroom set-up that was a brilliant design, and so after giving it some thought, I conceptualized, designed and built my tin type trike."

Azariah's interest was sparked by photographer Ian Ruhter, who "started working with the process in very large format scale, making incredible work." What appeals to Azariah is that "it's the opposite of how we create images today. It's slow, not guaranteed, and creates a single, one-of-a-kind physical image that can't be reproduced."

He's had his trike at the East Side Flea, and can also be hired for private events and parties. Around Vancouver, the Tin Type Trike can be found by following him on Instagram (@tintypetrike). In about 15 minutes, he can create a personalized tintype.

Azariah sees a growing interest in old school photography "for the same reasons you still see people going out and purchasing records.

"Despite digital reproductions providing 'better quality' people still love the feeling that vinyl gives them, and I think it's the same emotional response that keeps people coming back to film and Polaroids, and in my case, tintype."

Vancouver photographer Ian Azariah and his Tin Type Trike at Third Beach.
AMY LOGAN/FOR METRO

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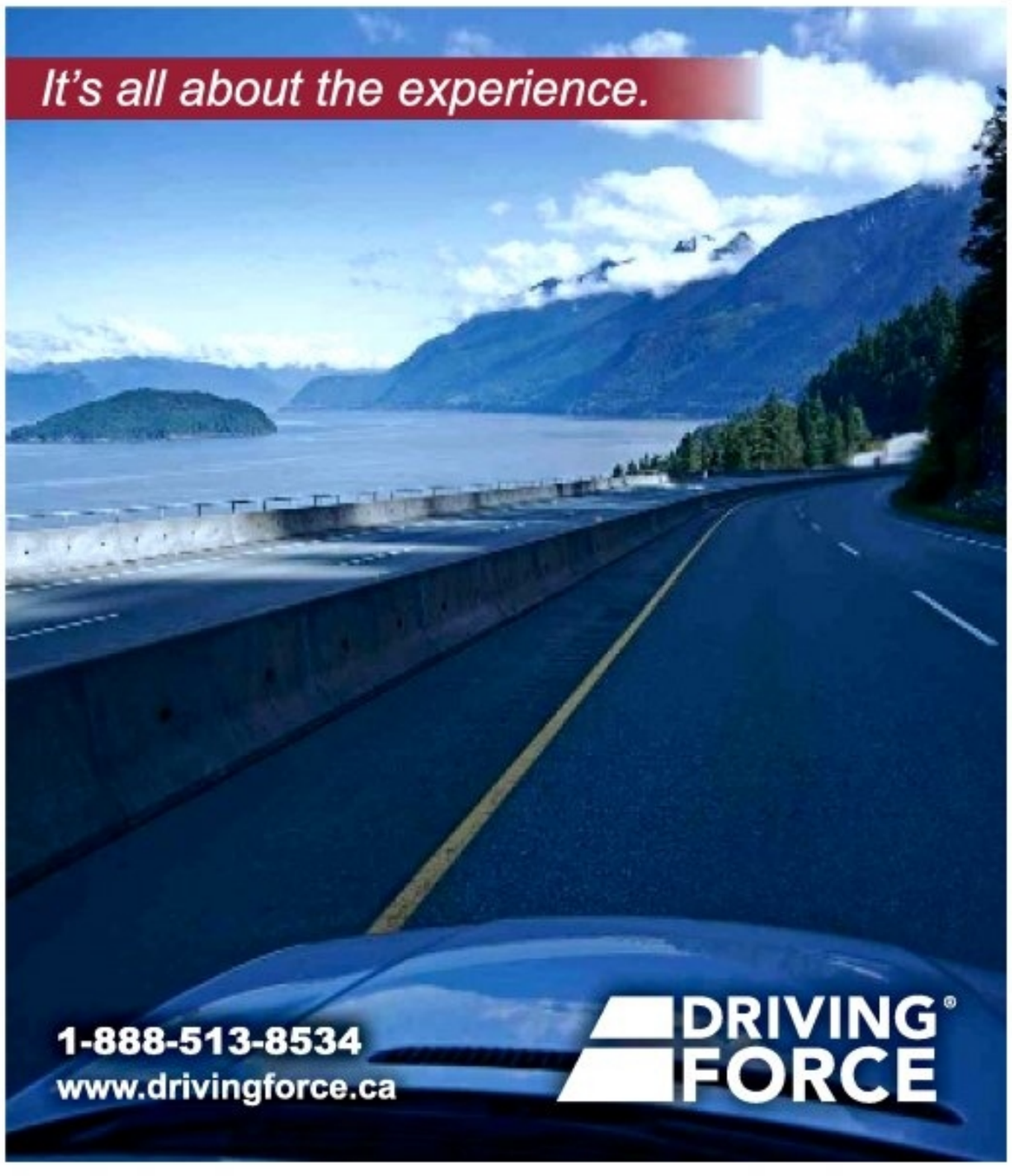

VANCOUVERING

with icons by **Danielle Vallée** from the noun project

Greetings and salutations for Say Hey

FOOD NOTES

Solid sammies and soda selection make this Chinatown staple

Abby Wiseman
For Metro

Tucked away under a decaying green sign from a long-gone knick-knack shop is Say Hey Cafe — easy to miss, but worth seeking out.

The low-key space is long and narrow — more like a corridor than a cafe. It's sparse, with a few tables and a glowing juice fridge stocked with Asian juices and sodas — a point of pride for co-owner Zach Zimmerman.

There's an interesting trend among small Vancouver restaurateurs who want to open a food shop, but don't want to deal with massive overhead or crippling permitting. Instead they're getting creative and making food that doesn't require a full-blown kitchen. The rise of poké in the city is a prime example of this new model, and Say Hey is another.

Say Hey (156 E. Pender St.) is a simple concept — fresh sandwiches served up quick with equally simple sides like a wedge salad or "magic beans." All sandwiches are served on sesame crusted baguette from Bon Chaz bakery. The consistency of the bread was perfect for holding the plethora of ingredients.

I first tried the Meatball Hoagie with a mixture of beef and pork meatballs, pickled serrano chili peppers, provolone, arugula and a chili aioli. The meatballs were really delicious with a nice consistency that was not too heavy thanks to the pork/beef combinations. The sandwich itself packed some heat — even arugula has a pepperiness to it — but it wasn't overwhelming. Cooled off with the aioli and provolone, this sandwich was really balanced and hard to put down.

The second sandwich was a daily feature called the Super Hero. That day's Super Hero sandwich featured sliced pork shoulder, watercress, Dijon mustard, dill pickle and was topped with dill pickle chips and tarragon aioli. They had me at dill pickle chips.

This sandwich was super fresh tasting and the dill and mustard was a really balanced combination. I particularly liked the use of peppery watercress with its substantial leaf and peppery taste against the pork shoulder, which added a bit of fat and salt — satisfying all the taste buds.

On this day, the Super Hero sandwich featured sliced pork shoulder and watercress. ABBY WISEMAN/FOR METRO

I sucked down the two sandwiches with a nice can of guava juice, while chatting with Zimmerman and co-owner Graham Marceau (who also owns Corduroy Pie company). The two took over the space, which had been vacant for several years and was in a state of disrepair. They gutted the space completely and rebuilt into a neighbourhood-friendly place to grab a quick sandwich, have a chat and try some juice that's hard to find at the supermarket.

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VANCOUVERING

Spinning a Salish story

INDIGENOUS STORIES

Cara McKenna
For Metro

Why are the waters off Point Grey so turbulent?

A Coast Salish story says it's because of Qulqulil, an unusually large woman who is said to have drowned there, making the waters rough forever.

Qulqulil is one of numerous stories told and shown visually in the Susan Point: Spindle Whorl exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

The exhibit tells a story of Point's life, while giving Coast Salish perspectives on the territory we live on. The extensive exhibit of the influential Musqueam artist's work spans her entire career, and there's just one month left to view it.

Salish spindle whorls (circular tools traditionally used to prepare wool) are the common theme, but the style and format of them is vast, featuring everything from Point's sketches to huge carvings of wood, glass, fabrics and other materials.

Salish Vision, 2002. UBC

Point's work is traditional, but considered ground-breaking. She boldly experiments with style and materials, and she broke gender barriers by carving at a time when women often didn't.

Kathleen Bartels, Vancouver Art Gallery's director, said the purpose of the exhibit is to give Point due credit for the important work she has done since the 1980s.

"Although her work has been highly visible in British Columbia for decades — in part through her important public commissions — no consideration of the full range and richness of her practice has ever been mounted by an art museum," Bartels said in a statement.

Spindle Whorl does nod to some of Point's commissioned public art, and even includes one of the City of Vancouver manhole covers she designed.

But the focus is on her wider body of work. One of the largest pieces, Butterfly Grid, comments on Canada's residential school system, and the loss of culture experienced by herself and many others.

Another piece titled Bounty II celebrates a creek that runs through Musqueam territory, where fish and berries are beginning to come back to thanks to enhancement programs.

Tuesday at 7 p.m., the gallery will host a free panel discussion about Point's influence and impact in the art world and community.

Susan Point: Spindle Whorl closes on May 28.

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Charity Wiley visits with Sonny in front of her stable, which was unscathed. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Animal family resettling, too

As soon as Charity Wiley leans on the fence of the paddock, her neighbour's horse, Sonny, hustles over to check her pockets for treats.

"He's a ham," she says, giving the wide white blaze on his nose a scratch.

Fort McMurray is an unabashedly animal-loving community. From the pets stowed away on evacuation planes, to the fish carried out in water bottles, to the dozen or so horses set free in desperation, animals featured prominently in the evacuation.

The town's residents have spent the last year readjusting to being home — and not just the human ones.

But Wiley says most of the equine evacuees are coping just fine.

"Some of them are a bit funny going on the trailer, but you can't really blame them; the last time they were on the trailer it was all panicky," she said, referring to the panicked flight from Clearwater Horse Club a year ago.

At Clearwater, a Fort McMurray institution for almost 50 years, people banded together to hurry horses onto trailers and down the highway as fast as possible. But with flames bearing down, the last dozen or so had to just be set loose.

In many ways, the animal rebuild echoes the human one: The fire damage seems randomly distributed, and only some of the buildings have been rebuilt. Only about half of the club's 120 or so horses are back so far. All but a few will return, but either their stables haven't been rebuilt or their human's homes haven't.

But the way people have rebuilt to get the animals back reflects the values of the human community, Wiley said.

"It just goes to show that life is valued here and it's not just a working town, it's a caring community. People have each other's backs." ALEX BOYD/METRO

Uncertain journey back to boomtown

RECOVERY

One year later, some wonder if 'the hustle' will ever be the same

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Rachel Ondang lived in Fort McMurray for a decade, but then had to leave after work dried up post-fire. JEREMY SIMES/METRO

Like thousands of her neighbours, Izdihar Salloum got out of Fort McMurray with nothing, minutes ahead of an out-of-control wildfire.

She'd grown to love the tight-knit community she'd called home for almost a decade, and wouldn't have chosen to leave, she says. But then pieces started to fall into place in Edmonton: Her two oldest went back to universities in the city, Wal-Mart transferred her job to a local store, she found a new home where she could walk to work.

Now her husband, Shaouki Bazzi, goes north to work every few weeks — then gets in his car and drives back to Edmonton.

"I have very, very good memories there," she said. "But I don't want to go back.... It's too hard."

She's not alone — the city currently estimates the population to be about 73,500, but between the economic downturn and the fire fallout residents say the city doesn't have the same hustle it did pre-fire. It has some wondering: Will Fort McMurray will ever be the same?

"The work just isn't there. You can't stay in Fort McMurray and just hang out for fun. It's a city where you have to have a lot of money just to be able to live," said Rachel Ondang.

Until recently Ondang was employed handling donations for evacuees. First the donations dried up, then her contract ended, and two weeks ago she moved back in with her parents in B.C.

As Ondang sees it, the fire marked a fundamental shift for the former boomtown.

Like most cities, Fort McMurray residents have long navigated their town by neighbourhood. But now some of those borders have become divisions between the haves and have-nots.

"The people who are living in houses that weren't damaged have no clue about those struggling to keep their heads above water," Ondang said. "I think that divide was always there, but the fire has just really magnified it.

"I know a lot of people who wrapped socks and underwear for their kids for Christmas year," Ondang said.

Fort McMurray city councillor Sheldon Germain, who is also a member of the Wood Buffalo recovery committee, admits that for some people it might make financial sense to relocate, but he believes in the community's ability to rebound.

"From Day 1, people used the term 'new normal,' and I don't know if I'd say that, but it was a transformational event, it's become part of the fabric of who we are."

But as a resident who weathered the downturn in the 1980s he argues the core of the city — "people in Fort McMurray are go-getters," he says — won't change.

"I would say I believe in the community, I believe in our partners in industry," he said. "But it's not just a rebuild. It's a recovery."

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Wanted: Female chairs

SCIENCE

Minister wants universities to appoint more women

The federal science minister says universities aren't doing the heavy lifting to appoint more female research chairs, so she wants to force their hands.

On her way to give a speech Wednesday to university presidents in Montreal, Kirsty Duncan was handed the latest statistics on the number of men and women among applicants for new Canada Research Chair positions.

"They're dismal," Duncan said in an interview. "There were two times more men nominated than women."

The Canada Research Chairs program was implemented 17 years ago to create 2,000 research positions at universities across the country to push for excellence in engineering, natural sciences, health sciences, humanities and social sciences. Canada spends $265 million a year on the program.

"The bar isn't moving and that can't continue," Duncan said, noting that she even ad-libbed part of her speech because of it: "I let them know I was very disappointed with the results."

In 2006, the Canada Research Chairs Program settled a complaint with the Canada Human Rights Commission brought by eight women who complained about discrimination in the awarding of the positions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's science minister, Kirsty Duncan, says universities aren't doing the heavy lifting to appoint more female research chairs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MANITOBA

Victim linked to brutal video beating mourned

Hundreds of mourners gathered for a candlelit vigil in a Manitoba's Sagkeeng First Nation Thursday evening, days after the killing of a 19-year-old woman rocked the community.

Serena McKay's body was found Sunday night near a home on the Sagkeeng reserve, about 120 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg. Since then, a video linked to her death has circulated on social media, showing a young woman lying battered and barely conscious as she's repeatedly kicked and punched in the head. Claude Guimond, the principal of Sagkeeng Anicinabe High School, where McKay attended, has confirmed her identity in the video.

The video, which has since been removed from Facebook, appears to have been taken on a cellphone. Female and male voices can be heard.

"Tuesday we had a healing ceremony for our students and staff," Guimond said. "One of the recurring things that came out was how social media — Facebook, you know — made things even worse by people reposting the video."

RCMP are still investigating, but have arrested two girls, 16 and 17 years old, on charges of second-degree murder. Neither teen suspect can be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

There will be another candlelit vigil for McKay in Winnipeg on Saturday night. The congregation will start at Thunderbird House at 6:30 p.m. and head to The Forks.

According to Facebook, a vigil in honour of McKay had also been planned in Montreal and Grand Rapids, Man. METRO WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

Trump 'explains' why he didn't terminate NAFTA

TRADE

President says PM asked him not to and he 'likes' Trudeau

Donald Trump's administration had hinted Wednesday afternoon that he was about to sign an order that would begin the process of withdrawing the U.S. from the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Trump announced Wednesday night, though, that he would not be doing so.

What happened?

Trump offered a remarkable explanation on Thursday. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto called him, he said, and asked him not to proceed.

And he likes them, he said, so he agreed.

"I was going to terminate NAFTA as of two or three days from now. The president of Mexico, who I have a very, very good relationship, called me. And also the prime minister of Canada, who I have a very good relationship, and I like both of these gentlemen very much, they called me," he said at the White House. "And they said, 'Rather than terminating NAFTA could you please negotiate.' I like them very much, I respect their countries very much, the relationship is very special. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The White House says U.S. President Donald Trump has told Prime Minister Justin Trudeau that he has agreed not to terminate NAFTA at this time. THE CANADIAN PRESS

AIRLINES

United settles with Dao as it creates new policies

United Airlines moved to staunch criticism by reaching a settlement Thursday with a passenger dragged off one of its planes two weeks ago and issuing new policies designed to prevent similar customer-service failures.

On April 9, Kentucky physician David Dao was forcibly removed from a flight after refusing to give up his seat to a crew member. The incident ignited a debate about poor service and a lack of customer-friendly policies on U.S. airlines. United and lawyers for Dao declined to disclose financial terms of the settlement. Earlier, United announced steps it would take to reduce overbooking of flights. Among other things, the airline said it will raise the limit on payments to customers who give up seats on oversold flights to $10,000, and it will improve training of employees.

David Dao FACEBOOK

Dao's attorney praised the airline and its CEO, Oscar Munoz, for accepting responsibility and not blaming others, including the city of Chicago, whose airport security officers yanked Dao from his seat and dragged him off the United Express plane. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GLOBAL DIGEST

Admiral says N. Korea crisis at worst point he's seen

The senior U.S. Navy officer overseeing military operations in the Pacific said Thursday that the crisis with North Korea is at the worst point he's ever seen, but he declined to compare the situation to the Cuban missile crisis decades ago.

"It's real," Adm. Harry Harris Jr., commander of U.S. Pacific Command, said during testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Harris said he has no doubt that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un intends to fulfil his pursuit of a nuclear-tipped missile capable of striking the United States. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

German soldier arrested on suspicion of planning attack

Police have arrested a German soldier who had posed as a Syrian refugee on suspicion he was planning an attack, apparently motivated by anti-foreigner sentiment, in a case that prosecutors said Thursday was "more than strange." The 28-year-old lieutenant, whose name wasn't released, faces charges of preparing an act of violence, said Frankfurt prosecutor's spokeswoman Nadja Niesen. The officer allegedly stashed a loaded pistol in a bathroom at the Vienna airport that was discovered, leading authorities to take him into custody. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

150 WAYS of looking at Canada

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Scorecard dismissed

100 days isn't enough time to 'make America great again,' despite campaign promise to voters, president says

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD From the U.S.

Sometimes, when it suits him, the president will say something true. One-hundred days, President Donald Trump now says, isn't a whole heck of a lot of time to "make America great again."

He's right. (Take a minute, that's not a phrase that often appears in the context of Trump, the man who's elevated fact-checking to a full-time job.)

The arbitrary measure of a new U.S. president's early success — the 100-day mark — dates back to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and has often proved to have little to do with an administration's overall effectiveness.

Trump, though, back in the old days of October, campaigned on all the amazing things he'd do for his base in his first 100 days, even going so far as to sign a "contract" (the reality TV kind) with the "American Voter" complete with his seismograph of a signature, and a fairly small photo, all things considered, of Trump with his hand over his heart. Meaning, it turns out, very little indeed.

The 100-day scorecard, which he then promised with patriotic posture, Trump now considers "ridiculous." But this is America, and even while the pundits agree with its arbitrariness, everyone — the White House, the media, politicians, though probably not your average "American Voter" — can't stop talking about Trump's fledgling legacy.

And it is worth looking at. As a study in political ineptitude, and policy disinterest. As a frenzy. As a warning.

We've learned that Trump the president is very much Trump the campaigner: Keen to say whatever comes to mind, and reserve the right to reverse course anytime thereafter, such as threatening to shut down the government over funding for his Mexican border wall, and then not.

Capable of extreme policy swings after a single conversation with a world leader, as with China's currency policy. Swift to act in military matters, as in Syria (once again, regardless of any previous position), without feeling encumbered by the need for a greater strategy.

Ferociously critical of the media, whilst wooing it. Susceptible to conspiracy theories, such as Barack Obama wiretapping Trump Tower. Focused on "winning," but not on the how of actual policy, a la his failed health care bill. Dismissive of women, especially those with sexual harassment claims, with his support for Bill O'Reilly.

Not to mention the culture he's spawned, where swastikas and hate crimes are spreading like weeds.

Just like campaigning Trump would do, President Trump will mark his first 100 days with a rally in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: Ever seeking the adoration of his base, while remaining, with a dismal 41 per cent approval rating, just as unpopular, and dangerous.

metro SCIENCE
Your essential daily news

If you devote yourself to making money, you'll be stressed, sad and have low self-esteem, says a new study from SUNY Buffalo

DECODED by Genna Buck and Andrés Plana

INTRODUCING: STEVE

What is that brilliant line in the sky? Is it the trail of an airplane? A message from aliens? Part of the northern lights? Nah, it's just our buddy **Steve**. The heavenly phenomenon, given a cutesy name by the Alberta citizen scientists who helped discover him, is still rather mysterious. Our newest (upstairs) neighbour was apparently hiding in plain sight this whole time.
Here's what we know about him so far.

WHO IS STEVE?

Scientists aren't exactly sure yet what Steve is (a research paper is forthcoming), but he's not new, and appears closely related to the **aurora borealis**, or northern lights, which he often appears alongside.

The northern lights (and southern lights, **aurora australis**) are collisions between **charged particles from the sun** and **gas particles from the Earth's outer atmosphere**.

The colour depends on the gas (yellow-green from oxygen, purple, blue or red from nitrogen).

The high-energy reactions taking place on the surface of the sun throw off huge numbers of charged particles (protons and electrons).

These particles flow toward the Earth in the form of **solar wind**. Most are deflected by our planet's magnetic field. But around the poles, the magnetic field is weaker, allowing more particles in.

When a sun particle crashes into a gas atom high above the Earth, it causes the atom to release a **photon**, a particle of light. Hence the gorgeous display we see in the sky.

FAST FACTS

Thanks to swarm, a group of satellites run by the European Space Agency, we know a few things about Steve.

Steve is:

A band of electrically charged gas particles more than 300 kilometres above the Earth's surface.

25 km wide and thousands of kilometres long.

Moving at about 6 kilometres per second from east to west across Canada

Extremely hot: about 3,000 C hotter than the surrounding air.

PAUL FEDOZZI/ALBERTA AURORA CHASERS

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

What is E. coli doing in my cookie dough?

How did E. coli bacteria end up in flour? - Holly, Toronto

As a cookie dough aficionado, I share your extreme concern.

There are many subtypes of E. coli bacteria, most of which are perfectly friendly.

But not E. coli 0121, the particularly gnarly type involved in the present recall of Robin Hood and Creative Baker flours and prepared tart shells from Harlan Bakeries. The bacteria makes a chemical called shigella toxin, which causes bloody diarrhea, abdominal cramps and even kidney failure in some people.

The natural habitat of E.coli is the lower intestine of mammals. Yes, E. coli comes from poop. And somehow, it got into our flour. Not a nice thought. And how exactly this happened is still being investigated.

It's possible for nasty strains of E. coli to pass from person to person, especially if proper hand hygiene isn't followed. But the usual suspect in these types of situations is cow poop.

Past outbreaks have been blamed on wheat irrigated with water contaminated with cow manure. Combine that with poor sanitation and cross-contamination at a processing facility, and you have a recipe for disaster.

And E. coli 0121 has been known to grow in grain mills and processing equipment, especially if the environment is humid.

So what is a cookie dough lover to do?

First, check your cupboard. Quite a large number of products have been pulled from shelves (see the Canada Food Inspection Agency website for the full list). If you have any at home, toss 'em.

But regardless of the brand, it's not considered safe to eat food containing uncooked flour. But don't go crying over your cookie dough just yet. If you heat the flour to at least 160 C, it's perfectly safe to eat. In fact, it's recommended that you let the youngest member of your kitchen team lick the beaters. It's practically a rule.

Science Question?
citizenscientist@metronews.ca

FINDINGS
Your week in science

STINKY STUDY

Mammals, regardless of species, all take about 12 seconds to poop, says new research in the journal Soft Matter. Large animals, despite having larger poops, don't take any longer to defecate, because they produce mucous that speeds the process. (There's surprisingly little data on human poop times, however). Last year, the same team decoded the universal mammal urination time: 21 seconds.

SOUND SMART

DEFINITION
The **Glacial Epoch**, a.k.a. the **Pleistocene**, was the period between 2.6 million and 11,000 years ago when glaciers covered much more of the Earth. It was also the time when the human species evolved. It ended at the end of the last Ice Age.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
I think this head of lettuce has been in the fridge since the **Glacial Epoch**.

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan

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Your essential daily news
MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION DIGITAL

Emma Watson's got staying power

Watson next stars in The Circle, a thriller about America's most influential and possibly dangerous tech company. CONTRIBUTED

IN FOCUS

Takes more than Potter magic to soar to her heights

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

One day someone may write about Emma Watson without mentioning the Harry Potter franchise, but today is not that day. Few child stars have faced the glare of the spotlight as acutely as the core Potter cast and the fame that came along with playing Harry, Ron and Hermione will likely follow them around for as long as Potterheads roam the earth.

It's not like they are crying over spilt potion, however. On screen Daniel Radcliffe takes on demanding roles that give him the chance to distance himself from Harry and, apparently, show his bum at every opportunity. Rupert Grint has kept a lower profile, starring in a few independent films and playing an upper-crust criminal on the television adaptation of Snatch.

Of the three, Emma Watson has the highest professional profile — with gigs addressing the United Nations, starring opposite a heartbroken furry beast, and accepting British GQ's Woman of the Year Award.

This weekend she follows up her post-Potter star turn as Belle in Beauty and the Beast with the high-tech thriller The Circle — based on the 2013 novel by Dave Eggers. Appearing opposite Tom Hanks, she plays a young woman hired at The Circle, America's most influential and possibly dangerous tech company.

She says, "I pick movies, not roles," and has amassed a carefully curated IMDB page — including everything from This is the End's axe-wielding version of herself to Noah's adopted daughter — designed to challenge an audience used to seeing her as Hermione and showcase strong and independent characters.

A year after Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows — Part 2, she surprised fans by playing a wise-beyond-her-years free spirit in The Perks of Being a Wallflower.

"If you had told me that the first movie I was going to do coming out of Harry Potter was an American high school movie," she told the Hollywood Reporter, "I would have laughed at you."

Based on a popular young adult novel, it uses one of the building blocks of teen drama — the friendless teen trying to navigate high school in his freshman year — but layers in equal amounts of teen angst and exuberance before the final class bell rings. Watson is terrific, avoiding the square-peg-in-a-round-hole clichés that could have dogged her character.

Her next starring role silenced Hermione comparisons forever. The Bling Ring plays like a Law & Order episode of The Hills.

Based on actual events, it centres on a group of narcissistic Los Angeles teens who track the comings and goings of their favourite celebs on the Internet.

While one-named millennial stars like Paris and Lindsay are out on the town, the Ring "go shopping," breaking into their homes, helping themselves to jewels, designer clothes and loose cash.

Watson's performance nails the vapidity that made the robberies possible. Dead eyed, with a bored inflection on every word she mispronounces, her take on Nicki shows there's more to her than being a wizard's sidekick.

"I am aware I have a long way to go," she told Elle UK. "I am not sure I deserve all the respect I get yet, but I'm working on it."

The 27-year-old may have a long way to go, but one thing is for sure, if she continues to choose daring and exciting roles, she's staying in the spotlight.

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Spark: A Space Tail ★
Norman ★★★
An American Dream ★★★

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★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★ UP TO YOU
★ SKIP IT

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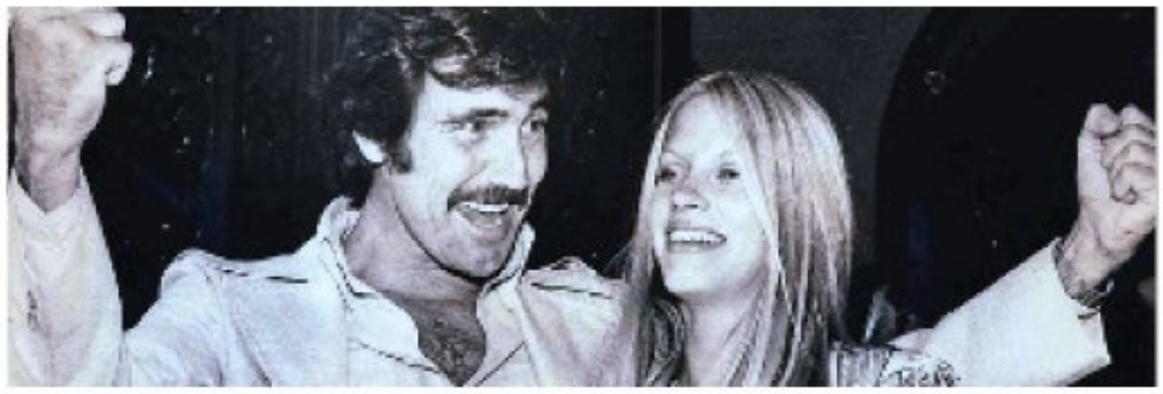
Fact or fiction? Hot Docs vs. Hollywood

The divide between documentary fact and dramatic fiction has never seemed flimsier, especially at the Hot Docs festival, where many international premieres are happening. Parallels between real life and classic Hollywood narratives can be drawn in several cases, sometimes worrisomely so. **Peter Howell** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Last Animals vs. Children of Men

DOC: Photojournalist Kate Brooks aims her probing lens at humanity's ultimate act of violence: extinction of an entire species — namely, the demise of the world's elephants and rhino — and the serious possibility that humans will one day be the last animals on Earth. **HOLLYWOOD:** Dystopias are a staple of popular fiction, from The Hunger Games to the upcoming Handmaid's Tale miniseries. One dark standard really resonates: Alfonso Cuarón's Children of Men envisioned a planet so drained of natural vitality that women are unable to conceive children. Humans face extinction, like all other animals they recklessly eliminated.



Becoming Bond vs. On Her Majesty's Secret Service

DOC: James Bond may be a freewheeling hero (licence to kill, sexual romps, etc.). But the actor who plays him can feel like a prisoner, constrained to the role off camera and on. Josh Greenbaum's doc profiles one-off 007 George Lazenby, the Aussie actor who walked away from a seven-picture deal and $1-million signing bonus after his first movie in 1969. **HOLLYWOOD:** Many rank On Her Majesty's Secret Service among the best of the 007 series, and Lazenby is every bit the rule breaker on screen as he was off it. It's also the only Bond film where 007 marries for real (not as part of a deception) and the first where he openly weeps.

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Mermaids vs. Splash

DOC: They call it a mergasm: a euphoric feeling when a woman slips on the carefully constructed tail that transforms her from ordinary human to figure of aquatic legend. A curious hobby on the surface, this doc dives into the psychology behind the real-life fish story. **HOLLYWOOD:** In 1984 rom-com Splash, Darryl Hannah is the girl of Tom Hanks' dream, only she's a mermaid. It sounds doomed, but when she assumes human form to track him down in New York City, Cupid might have to make an exception. It's the same watery wish fulfilment that prompts the quirky mermaid dress-up in Ali Weinstein's doc.

Spookers vs. House of a 1,000 Corpses

DOC: Imagine if the drooling zombies of Michael Jackson's Thriller video opened their own theme park. The strange scene in Florian Habicht's Spookers, a commercial fright fest on the grounds of a shuttered psychiatric hospital in New Zealand, takes centre stage in this doc. The pants-wetting (and worse) horror is convincing, and the makeup is great. **HOLLYWOOD:** I'd argue '1,000 Corpses' gets closest to the serial insanity of Spookers, but not in a good way. When I reviewed the film (premise: psycho killers operating a freak museum), I said it "devolves into the worst kind of drive-in drivel." Spookers is better by keeping it real (sort of).

OBITUARY

Bollywood's Vinod Khanna dies

Vinod Khanna, a dashing Bollywood actor turned politician, has died of cancer, a hospital official said. He was 70.

Tushar Pania, a spokesman for Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital, said Khanna died Thursday due to bladder carcinoma.

Khanna made his Bollywood debut in 1968 and acted in more than 100 films. His popular performances included Mere Apne (My Own), Mera Gaon Mera Desh (My Village, My Country), Gaddaar (Traitor), Kachhe Dhaage (Delicate Thread) and Amar Akbar Anthony. He acted with top stars Amitabh Bachhan and Dharmendra in several Hindi movies.

In 1982, Khanna temporarily quit the film industry to join spiritual guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. He resumed his film career after five years.

He entered politics in 1997 as a lawmaker with the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, representing the Gurdaspur constituency in northern Punjab state in Parliament. He also served as junior external affairs minister and culture and tourism minister.

He married his first wife, Geetanjali, in 1971 and the two had two sons, Rahul Khanna and Akshaye Khanna, who also became Bollywood actors. The marriage ended in a divorce, and he married his second wife, Kavita, in 1990. They had two children, a son and a daughter.

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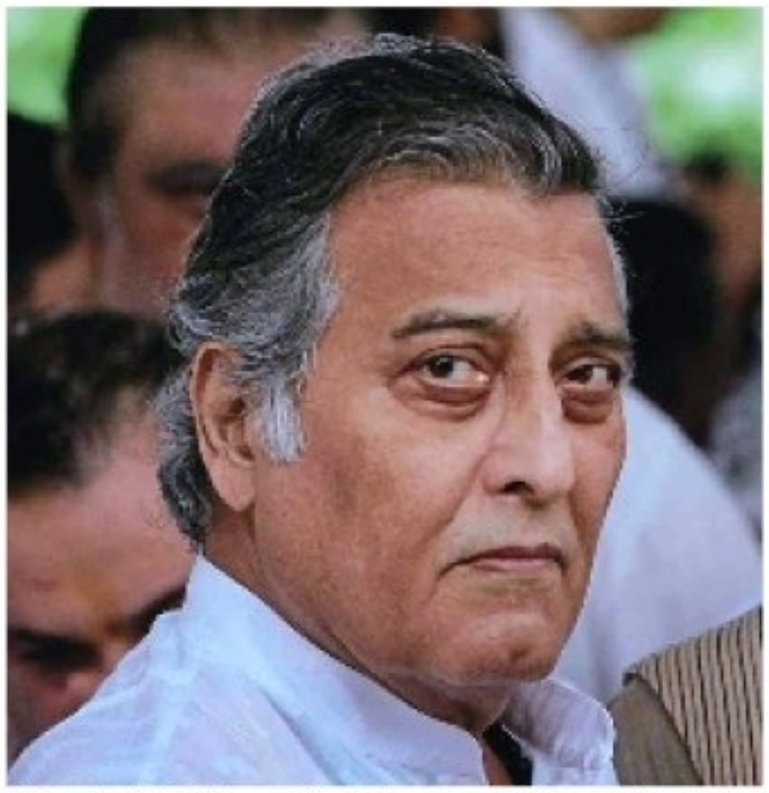

A hospital official says Vinod Khanna, a dashing Bollywood actor turned politician, has died of cancer in Mumbai. He was 70. AP PHOTO

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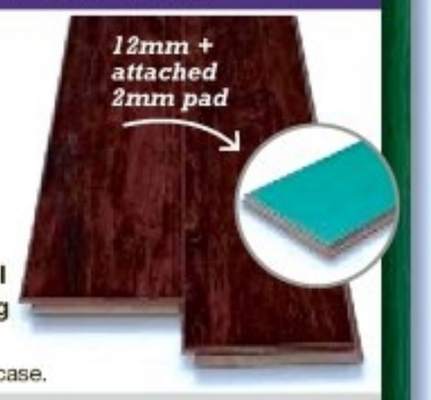

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NEW ALBUM

Songstress makes a triumphant new album

Mary J. Blige's latest is called Strength of a Woman. AP

Let's state the obvious here: Mary J. Blige has a way with hurt. Songs like "Not Gon' Cry" and "No More Drama" might even prove that Blige is at her best when she's at her worst.

Her latest set, "Strength of a Woman," supports that almost-fact.

Sure, "happy Mary" can make a hit. (Please see: 2001's "Family Affair" in this dancery.) But "scorned Mary" can make you feel both her pain and your own - every cut, every bruise, every pang of fragile hope.

On "Strength of a Woman," Blige harnesses that power. Perhaps thanks in no small part to real-life drama with her estranged husband Martin "Kendu" Isaacs, from whom she filed for divorce last year. Lead single "Thick of It" - one of four heart-wrenching standouts co-written by Jazmine Sullivan — movingly captures Blige torn between staying and walking away.

But in no uncertain terms is Blige as ready to go as on the quietly scathing "Set Me Free," also co-written by Sullivan. "How you fix your mouth to say I owe you/When you had another (chick) and taking trips.../With my money." Blige sings, later adding, "There's a special place in hell for you/You gon' pay for what you did to me."

The words are a little startling, but it brings a certain pleasure to hear Blige flexing her emotional muscle against the hurt. She's down, but she's not out, as she declares on the Kanye West-assisted "Love Yourself."

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GETTING SMART ABOUT DEALING WITH DIABETES

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At age 18, Kayla Brown was diagnosed with diabetes.

"I had the classic symptoms: weight loss, increased thirst, frequent urination, vision difficulties and fatigue," she says. "I looked for ways to make the most of a difficult situation by getting involved in the diabetes community and starting a blog."

Brown also embraced the latest technologies for monitoring her blood glucose levels. "When I was first diagnosed, I was recording my numbers in a notebook, and sometimes forgetting. It was harder to manage my blood sugar because it was difficult to see the patterns when I was just looking at a bunch of numbers on paper," she explains.

Now, Brown uses the Contour Next One Bluetooth-enabled smart meter and Contour diabetes app. This blood glucose meter links to your phone through a mobile app to collect, store, and graph meter readings to make it easier for patients to analyze results and better manage their diabetes. This innovation shows users at a glance if their blood sugar is too high, too low or within their target range with coloured lights via smartlight technology.

"With this device, I can quickly check and see by the colour of the light on the display whether or not my sugar is in the normal range," Brown says. A green screen means her blood sugar is normal, yellow means high and red means low. "This keeps it simple, and if your blood sample is too small, it easily allows you to add more blood with the second chance sampling feature."

Technologies like these are beneficial to doctors, as well.

"Using new technology that connects glucometer testing to phone- or computer-based apps can help healthcare professionals see the bigger picture at a glance and pinpoint problem areas on the glucose readings," says Dr. Harpreet Bajaj, endocrinologist at LMC Diabetes and Endocrinology Centre in Brampton and research associate at Toronto's Mt. Sinai Hospital. "It's much easier to help patients figure out how to make changes and improve health outcomes." It's also less stressful for patients than seeing their numbers on a screen, he adds. "Rather than looking only at the small variations with their numbers, they can also look at the colours and know whether or not they are within their target glucose ranges."

Brown says the technology has encouraged her to check her blood more often and pay attention to the patterns. "I feel like I'm in control of my diabetes, so I'm living healthier and feeling better."

Gossip DIGEST — KIM'S THOUGHTS; CHRIS'S CASE

1 Kim talks Paris robbery — Kim Kardashian says that being held at gunpoint during a Paris jewelry heist last year "was meant to happen." Kardashian tells Ellen DeGeneres on her show Thursday that she's "such a different person" after the October robbery. She says she was "definitely materialistic" before being robbed, but now she says she doesn't care about things like jewelry.

2 Former Bachelor gets legal help — Former Bachelor star Chris Soules "acted reasonably" after he rear-ended a fellow Iowa farmer by calling 911 and trying to resuscitate the man, his new legal team said Thursday.

Soules is charged with leaving the scene of a deadly accident, a felony that carries up to five years in prison, in Monday night's crash near his farm in northern Iowa that killed 66-year-old Kenneth Mosher.

Authorities say that Soules' truck rear-ended Mosher's tractor, throwing him into a ditch. Police audio shows that Soules called 911 to report that he had "rear-ended a guy on a tractor" and sought medical help for Mosher before he left the scene in another vehicle.

Authorities say that Soules was located at his home about 10 miles away but that he initially refused to answer his door for officers. He was arrested five hours after the crash after they obtained a warrant to enter the home. Soules was released on bond Tuesday after 10 hours in jail. Investigators are looking into who drove Soules away and whether alcohol, speed or texting played a role in the crash.

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Civil rights group backs Ann Coulter

FREE SPEECH

'Threats' that led to cancel Coulter lecture condemned

The American Civil Liberties Union's national legal director says "unacceptable threats of violence" that led to the cancellation of Ann Coulter's speech at the University of California, Berkeley are inconsistent with free speech principles that protect people from government overreach.

David Cole says hateful speech has consequences especially for people of colour, LGBTQ people, immigrants and others who have been historically marginalized.

But Cole said late Wednesday the government cannot define threats to free speech because that could result in censorship.

Though Coulter's speech at UC Berkeley was cancelled, far-right supporters were planning rallies Thursday to denounce what they claim is an attempt to silence their conservative views.

Meanwhile, Berkeley, known as the home of the American free speech movement, was under heavy police watch on Thursday in advance of what is expected to be a large pro-Coulter protest.

The author added that she might still "swing by to say hello" to her supporters, prompting police and university officials to brace for possible trouble. Coulter supporters said the university was attempting to silence their views.

Dozens of police wearing flak jackets and carrying 40-milli launchers that shoot "foam batons" flanked the university's main plaza while a small group of protesters condemning Coulter staged one of two earlier rallies outside campus. Officers also took selfies with students in an attempt to lighten the mood. Police erected barricades and refused to let participants enter the campus.

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Protests were in abundance in Berkeley, Calif. on Thursday over the cancellation of Ann Coulter's lecture. GETTY IMAGES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Following a knight's trail in Scotland

KING ARTHUR

Chasing Arthurian lore and sites from Ritchie's film

The production team of King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (starring Charlie Hunnam) choose a location on the Isle of Skye, in northwest Scotland, for its natural drama. Top right: The hiking paths up Arthur's Seat, an ancient volcano in the heart of Edinburgh. CONTRIBUTED **Bottom left: On the lawn of Dalhousie Castle, one of Falconry Scotland's two locations.** TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Even when the wind is blowing so strongly that the rain hits the ground almost horizontally, you can't help but be moved by the greenness, and grandness, of the view from the craggy edges of the Quiraing — an ancient 543-metre-high landslip. It's clear why filmmaker Guy Ritchie tapped Scotland's Isle of Skye as a location for King Arthur: Legend of the Sword which opens May 12.

"(He was) looking for a magical place to represent the 'Darklands,' a mythical place where Arthur becomes a man," says Amanda Stevens, the film's location manager. "Skye has the most extreme and stunning locations, one of the most beautiful areas in the world . . . (and it's) remote and far from signs of modernity."

So remote, in fact, that the crew had to hike everything from food hampers to portable toilets 45 minutes into the mountains to reach the shooting site. They were blessed with brilliant sunshine but there's always a chance of rain and darkness on the island ranges in the northwest corner of Scotland.

Even so, the dramatic landscapes have been inspiring storytellers throughout history.

"The stark landscape and ever-changing light and shade are stimuli for the imagination," says Johanna Summers, the travel expert from Must See Scotland who's guiding us through the Highlands. "It's perfectly possible that Scotland's early people needed tales of heroism and the overcoming of dark forces as a kind of escape from the harsh struggles of long ago."

Driving around Trotternish Ridge, the most northerly peninsula of Skye, the geological features seem to tell their own tales of those harsh struggles.

At Kilt Rock, a sea cliff named for its massive vertical basalt columns forming the shape of a pleated skirt, a 55-metre waterfall shoots out over its edge into the Sound of Raasay below. The Old Man of Storr is a large, jagged pinnacle of rock that looks like something out of a dark fairytale.

"Amongst the Gaels at least, (there's) this strong emphasis on storytelling as a way of handing down traditional lore and tales of great warriors," says Summers.

The greatest warrior of all, to many, is King Arthur, and his connection to Scotland goes way beyond Ritchie's film locations.

Books such as Finding Arthur by Adam Ardrey and Arthur and the Lost Kingdoms by Alistair Moffat point out that many of the familiar symbols of Arthurian legend — the Sword in the Stone, the Lady of the Lake, the Holy Grail and even Camelot — could actually be found in Scotland. They also suggest he wasn't a king at all, but a cavalry general in c. 500 AD chosen to lead a coalition army along the Scottish border.

Though England and Wales traditionally lay claim to Arthur, Scotland's connection to the king is strengthened further on a visit to Arthur's Seat, the iconic extinct volcano in Edinburgh's Holyrood Park, which is put forward as a possible location of Camelot.

"Ben Arthur, Loch Arthur, Arthur's Seat, we've got all these references throughout Scotland to say that this Arthur name had standing, had meaning, had strength behind it," says Calum Lykan, a professional Scottish storyteller and our Edinburgh guide. "That's why a lot of these scholars are now saying Arthur has got to be originating within the Scottish realm."

Edinburgh Castle also plays a part in building the legend. The first written reference to Arthur is in the 5th-century epic Welsh poem Y Gododdin, in which 300 warriors march out from Edinburgh into battle. There the Scottish warrior Gwawrddur "brought black crows to a fort's wall/ Though he was no Arthur/He made his strength a refuge."

"We could easily lay claim to Arthur," says Lykan. "Stories are a gift for everyone and therefore we all have our Arthur."

Whether King Arthur (a name said to have derived from the ancient Gaelic word artos, meaning "bear") was a real living man, a transferable title given to a lauded war leader, or simply a fable used to teach children about friendship, is still up for debate. But after a week of following Arthur around this rugged land, there's no debating the legendary status of Scotland's natural beauty. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The author was hosted by Visit Britain, which did not review or approve this story.

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CUISINE

Asian-inspired night markets popping up across the U.S.

Clouds of white smoke rise into the black sky from outdoor grills. The night air is scented with the fragrances of cuisines from around the world. Vendors in tiny stalls stir noodles, toss crepes and fill dumplings as lines of hungry customers stretch into the dark.

That was the scene at the Queens Night Market as it opened for the season in New York City. It's one of a number of sprawling nighttime food markets — inspired by the massive night markets of Asia — that have started popping up around the U.S. There are also regular night markets in Philadelphia and Southern California, and occasional night markets held elsewhere.

The Atlanta area became the latest destination to host a new night market in late April, attracting 50,000 people and 130 vendors at its first three-day event, with another one scheduled for November.

In St. Paul, Minnesota, the Little Mekong Night Market attracted 18,000 people one weekend last summer, and it's coming back June 10-11. In Jersey City, New Jersey, a Mother's Day-themed night market is scheduled for May 12, 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

Some 8,000 people turned out for the opening of the Queens Night Market on April 22. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Some of the markets are primarily Asian-themed, others promote food from around the world. The inexpensive, temporary market stalls also offer first-time entrepreneurs an opportunity to hone recipes and business skills without having to lay out the big bucks required for a brick-and-mortar shop or even a food truck. Some of the events even operate as non-profits with proceeds going to charity.

Lines can be long, as small quantities of food are being made to order on the spot. But part of the fun is watching the preparation as vendors stretch and fold crepes, pinch dumplings, sizzle and blend fillings and toss noodles. Other types of merchandise — arts, crafts, toys, along with games — are typically offered onsite as well as live music.

The events are very different, from laidback farmers markets or busy food halls, with an after-dark vibe and energy that seems to pick up as the night goes on. Some charge a few dollars' admission, but food items typically average $5. Go with a friend, and for $25, you can stuff yourself sharing four or five dishes — a perfect budget outing.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NIGHT MARKETS

Queens Night Market
John Wang spent childhood summers in Taiwan. That inspired him to start the Queens Night Market. Held on the grounds of the New York Hall of Science in a working-class and immigrant area, most menu items are $5 and a booth costs $135. "I want this to be the most accessible thing in New York City," Wang said. Details at: queensnightmarket.com.

Atlanta International Night Market
Held at Gwinnett Place Mall in Duluth, the market features food from around the world and a "vegan village." Founder David Lee, who was born in Vietnam and owns the Saigon Cafe chain of restaurants, hopes to hold the market four times a year. The next one scheduled for Nov. 3-5. Details at: atlnightmarket.org.

Night Market Philadelphia
Started in 2010, this market attracts 20,000 attendees. Food ranges from empanadas and Jamaican jerk chicken to Khmer satay. Markets take place in different neighbourhoods. The next two are scheduled for May 11 in the Burholme area and June 29 in West Philly. More details at: thefoodtrust.org/night-market.

626 Night Market and OC Night Market
Two night markets take place in Southern California. The 626 in Arcadia, which started in 2012, has 200 vendors, and the OC Night Market in Costa Mesa has 100. You can find everything from Filipino, Vietnamese and Laotian cuisines to Mediterranean shawarma and Texas barbecue. About 20 per cent of vendors are first-time entrepreneurs. Details at: 626nightmarket.com. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Tom Hanks says he's going on an "NFL moratorium" for two years after his hometown Oakland Raiders leave for Las Vegas

Young Canadian talent on full display

MLS

Whitecaps' Davies to face friend in Impact's Tabla

Ballou Tabla scored in his first MLS start in Chicago on April 1. JON DURR/BONGARTS/GETTY IMAGES

The future of Canadian soccer may be on display when the Vancouver Whitecaps visit the Montreal Impact on Saturday.

The Whitecaps have 16-year-old Alphonso Davies, the youngest active player in Major League Soccer, while Montreal brings Ballou Tabla, who turned 18 on March 31.

It remains to be seen whether either midfielder will start or come off the bench, but so far, neither team has been reluctant to use their gifted young players in games.

The two African-born, Canadian-raised players have been teammates on national youth squads in recent years and know each other well.

"I'm his friend," Tabla said Thursday. "But it's my team against his team.

"We will try to get the three points. He's a good young player like me. I'm happy for him. We played with the national team and he was my roommate. We had time to talk a lot."

He didn't say if they discussed playing together on Canada's senior national team one day, perhaps because that is still up in the air in both cases. Davies, a native of Liberia who grew up in Edmonton, has permanent residency in Canada but is not yet a citizen, while Tabla, of Montreal, is yet to decide whether to represent Canada or his native Ivory Coast in international play.

Canada coach Octavio Zambrano has said he hopes to convince Tabla to choose Canada, his home since he was eight.

The crafty midfielder has turned heads this season with the Impact. After a strong first pro season in USL in 2016, he pushed established veterans for playing time in the MLS squad's training camp.

Alphonso Davies
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tabla scored a goal in his first MLS start on April 1 in Chicago, when he replaced injured star Ignacio Piatti. Coach Mauro Biello has put him into six of seven games this season, including two starts. He is making a case to become a regular in the first 11.

"I think he's very close," said Biello. "He continues to perform and do well and absorb everything and grow as a player.

"We have to be careful with that because he's 18, but at the same time, we want to give him all the tools he needs to express himself. In the end, you've got to let the talent flourish."

Davies has played in five games for Vancouver, starting four. He made his MLS debut last season. While he has yet to score in 13 league games, he has potted two in CONCACAF Champions League play.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL PLAYOFFS

Crosby propels Pens to early lead

GAME 1 In Washington

3	2
PENGUINS	CAPITALS

Sidney Crosby outduelled Alex Ovechkin in a vintage goal-for-goal showdown between the NHL's top teams, and Nick Bonino and Marc-Andre Fleury put the finishing touches on a playoff classic.

Crosby scored two goals in 52 seconds, Bonino had the winner in the third period and Fleury made dazzling saves with and without his stick, helping the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Washington Capitals 3-2 Thursday night in Game 1 of their highly anticipated second-round series.

Almost eight years after their "duelling hat tricks" game, Ovechkin answered Crosby with his fourth goal of the playoffs, but his team couldn't compensate for the Penguins captain's greatness.

"They're special athletes, both those guys, and they look for those big moments and they capitalize on those big moments," Capitals coach Barry Trotz said. "They're special players."

Crosby scored twice in the first 64 seconds of the second period to give him as many goals as he had points in the Penguins' series against the Capitals a year ago.

"That's how it goes sometimes," Crosby said. "You don't get some for a while and then they come in bunches."

Game 2 is Saturday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

No. 1 pick Garrett promises Browns fans 'great things'

No surprises at the top of the NFL draft: Roger Goodell got booed, then Myles Garrett was picked first overall by the Cleveland Browns.

Garrett, a dynamic pass rusher, was not on hand, but promised Cleveland fans "great things are coming."

Cleveland went 1-15 last season and has holes everywhere. It ranked 31st defensively and had only 26 sacks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raptors take bumpy ride to eliminate Bucks

The Toronto Raptors are headed to the Eastern Conference semifinals. But they didn't take the easiest path in getting there.

DeMar DeRozan scored 32 points as the Raptors held on to beat the Bucks 92-89 in Game 6, but not before watching their 25-point lead vanish in a fierce Milwaukee comeback.

The Raptors will next face defending champion Cleveland. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Chewy Almond Butter Chip Cookies

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Creamy, soft and chocolate in every bite should be all of a description you need to be convinced to make these cookies.

Ready in 30 minutes
Prep time: 10
Cook time: 20-22

Ingredients
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, softened
- 1/2 cup smooth almond butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 1/4 cups spelt flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 3/4 cup mini chocolate chips

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 375. Grease a baking sheet with butter.

2. Cream butter and sugar. Add almond butter. Next add egg and mix until fluffy.

3. Whisk flour, baking powder, soda and salt together. Combine the dry ingredients into the butter batter in stages, blending until incorporated. Add the chocolate chips and mix.

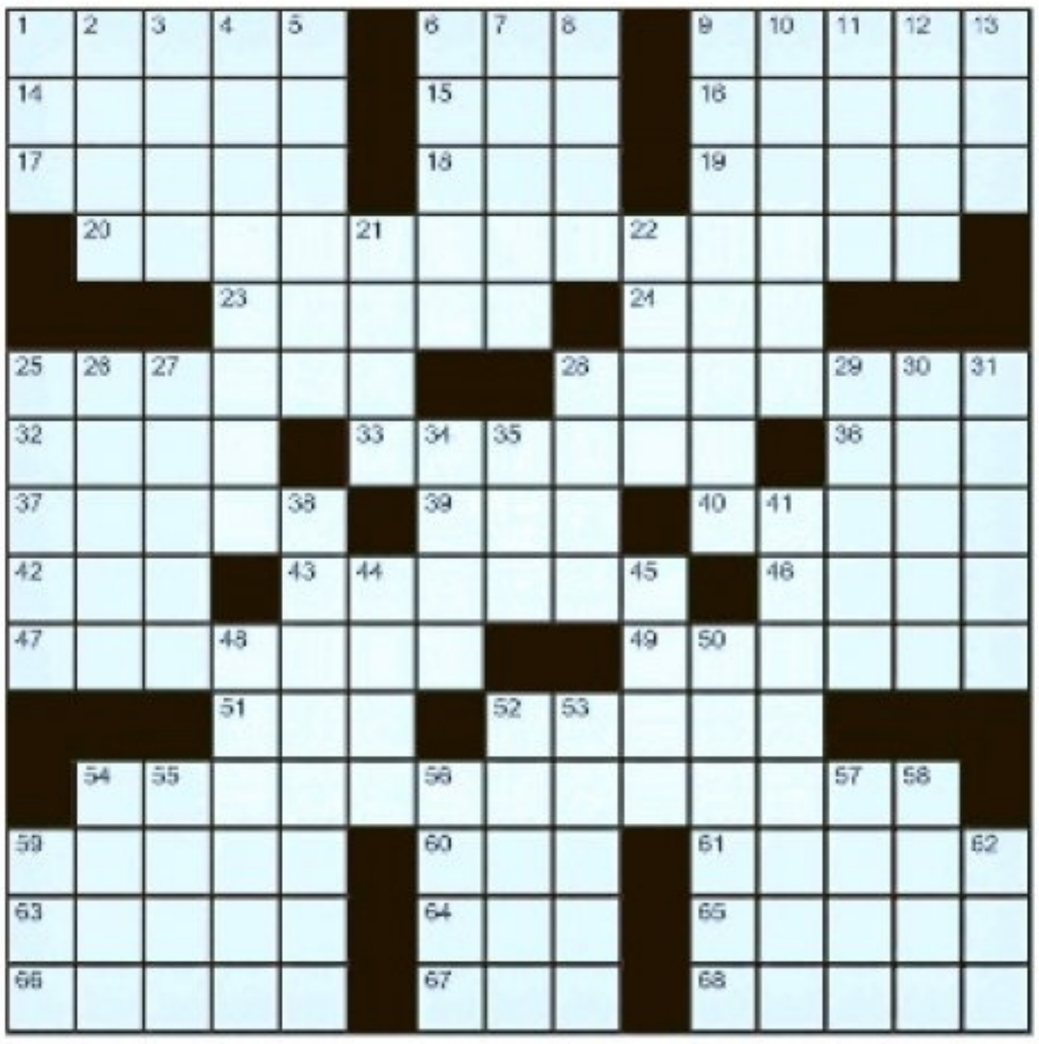
4. Drop a tablespoon of dough onto the cookie sheet and then flatten it a tiny bit with the back of a spoon. Space your cookies about 1-inch apart. Bake in the oven for 20 to 22 minutes. I consider this the most important step if you want chewy, soft cookies. Be sure to watch them carefully. If you want more crisp cookies, allow them to bake another few minutes.

5. Remove from the oven and allow to cool a few minutes.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Music publisher's cache
6. Transport for T.O. commuters
9. Tear to bits
14. Towards the ship's left side
15. Above, to a poet
16. Trompe l'__ (Visual illusions)
17. Ms. Shriver
18. Uno + due = ?
19. "Can __ you?" (Let's talk on the phone)
20. With 'The', Margaret Atwood's dystopian bestseller adapted as a thrilling new TV drama, airing on Bravo: 2 wds.
23. Radio station switchers
24. Public Relations job, e.g.
25. Totalitarian world in which #20-Across is set
28. King of Lydia who was fabulously rich
32. MGM lion's sound!
33. Really tick off
36. "Gangnam Style" guy
37. "Thus...": 2 wds.
39. Not in
40. Canadian singer/songwriter Sarah
42. Rich dollar amt.
43. Extra extensive
46. Schemer in Shakespeare's Othello
47. Sightseer's sight
49. Name of #54-Across' lead role character
51. Excavated material
52. Mow the grass even shorter
54. "Mad Men" actress now starring in #20-Across: 2 wds.
59. Literary genre
60. __ budget
61. "__ the sauce could have used more seasoning." (Food competition judge's critique)
63. Think alike
64. Spuds-exporting prov.
65. Movie star Zac
66. Windblown silt deposit
67. Cobbler's tool
68. Replies to the party invite, wee-ly

DOWN
1. "Cheers" bar owner
2. Moonfish
3. A Doll's House wife
4. Some people with their teeth at night unknowingly
5. Olympic venues, fancy-style
6. Amount
7. Ms. Hatcher's
8. Deb. opposite, as per money
9. "That's how things turn out sometimes!": 3 wds.
10. British Columbia body of water, with Strait
11. Money in Oman
12. She, in Sherbrooke
13. Internet hookup letters
21. Created
22. Famed puppeteer Tony
25. Tiny weights
26. Column style of ancient Greece
27. Soup scooper
28. Ms. Blanchett
29. Asparagus shape
30. Accepted practice
31. Church council
34. Busybody-ish
35. Furrow
38. Manages
41. Historic happenings at Cape Canaveral
44. Milieu
45. Acadian singer Mr. Voisine
48. Rackets
50. Emitting more vapors
52. Freshen
53. Internet business
54. As a result
55. Handed-down history
56. "Be-__-__-Lula"
57. 'S' of EMS, for short
58. Swill
59. Friend
62. Heavy wts.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Expect the unexpected today, because unpredictable events will occur. Your mind is racing and going off in all directions!

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Secrets might come out today, especially if you do research or study something unusual. Something unexpected will occur behind the scenes.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You might meet a real character today. Or possibly, someone you already know will do something that amazes you. No matter what happens, you will learn something.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
A conversation with a boss, parent or authority figure will surprise you in some way today. If you are caught off guard, take a breath before you react. Don't quit your day job.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You suddenly might have to travel somewhere today, or scheduled travel plans will be changed or canceled. Travel and school schedules definitely are unpredictable.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Double-check your bank accounts and matters related to inheritances and shared property today, because something unexpected likely will occur. It's always good to know what's happening.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A friend or partner probably will surprise you today. This person might demand more freedom in the relationship or suggest something unusual.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your work routine will be interrupted by computer crashes, power outages, fire drills, cancelled appointments or something unexpected. Count on it.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is an accident-prone day for your children, so be extra vigilant. This applies to sports as well. Meanwhile, love at first sight might take place.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Small appliances might break down, or minor breakages could occur today. An unexpected visitor might appear at your door.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
This is an accident-prone day, so be careful. Think before you act or speak. However, you're full of clever and geniuslike ideas, because it's easy for you to think outside the box today.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Be careful with your finances and possessions today. You might find money, or you might lose money. Be careful to guard your possessions against loss or theft.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

				3		9		5
	7		2				1	
					1			8
	4			9	3	6		
9								4
		8	5	4			3	
8			4					
	9				7		2	
7		1		6				

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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games

1	5	7	9	4	6	3	2	8
4	3	9	1	8	2	5	6	7
6	8	2	3	7	5	1	4	9
8	7	5	6	9	1	4	3	2
3	2	4	7	5	8	6	9	1
9	6	1	2	3	4	8	7	5
2	1	3	8	6	9	7	5	4
5	9	6	4	1	7	2	8	3
7	4	8	5	2	3	9	1	6

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- ☑ NO CREDIT
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- ☑ JUDGEMENTS
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